

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The applicants filed the priority application for this application as DE 103 14 753.5 with the German Patent Office on April 1, 2003. On March 27, 2004, PCT/EP 2004/003283 (WO 2004/087315) was filed claiming priority from the German application. The current application is being filed to enter the U.S. national stage and is based on these earlier filed applications.